

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 CA-01 EB-08 COME-00 L-03
H-01 /031 W

-----096689 241456Z /43

R 231030Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9419
INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE DACCA 3262

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC EINV BG US
SUBJECT: FARROKH CAPTAIN

REFS: A. STATE 119519, B. DACCA 2655, C. DACCA 2618,
D. DACCA 2262, E. DACCA 2369

1. MFA'S AMERICAS DIRECTOR AMINUL ISLAM INFORMED EMBOFF MAY 17
THAT THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS HAS ADVISED THAT IT HAS NO
OBJECTION TO FARROKH CAPTAIN VISITING BANGLADESH AND THAT
CAPTAIN MAY COME AT ANY TIME.

2. ISLAM ALSO SAID MFA HAD BEEN INFORMED BY THE MINISTRY
OF INDUSTRIES THAT ON THE BASIS OF AN OPINION OBTAINED FROM
THE MINISTRY OF LAW, MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES BELIEVES IT HAS
NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED THAT CAPTAIN IS THE RIGHTFUL OWNER OF
FARROKH CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES AND MOREOVER THAT CAPTAIN WAS A
PAKISTANI CITIZEN AT THE TIME FARROKH CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES
WAS NATIONALIZED. THEREFORE THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES
BELIEVES THERE IS NO JUSTIFICATION FOR DELAYING SALE BY
THE MINISTRY OF THE COMPANY. ISLAM SAID MFA WOULD CONVEY
THIS TO EMBASSY IN A NOTE VERBALE.

3. EMBOFF TOLD ISLAM THAT EMBASSY CONTUNUES TO REQUEST
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THAT NO ACTION BE TAKEN CONCERNING FARROKH CHEMICAL IN-
DUSTRIES-CHITTAGONG UNTIL CAPTAIN HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO
VISIT DACCA AND PRESENT HIS CLAIM TO BDG OFFICIALS. WE
WOULD RESTATE THIS REQUEST IN OUR REPLY TO THE NOTE
VERBALE WHEN IT IS RECEIVED. ON MAY 18 EMBOFF REPEATED
THIS REQUEST DURING A CALL ON SECRETARY FOR INDUSTRIES
MATIUL ISLAM. ISLAM AGREED TO WAIT AND URGED THAT

CAPTAIN VISIT DACCA PROMPTLY TO STATE HIS CASE.

4. ON MAY 23 EMBASSY RECEIVED MFA'S NOTE VERBALE DATED MAY 17. NOTE STATES "...AFTER DUE CONSIDERATION OF THE CASE OF M/S FARROKH CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH HAS COME TO THE DECISION THAT THERE IS NO JUSTIFIABLE GROUND FOR FURTHER WITHHOLDING THE DISINVESTMENT OF THE SUBJECT INDUSTRY. IT IS THEREFORE FELT THAT, ON THE ADMITTED FACTS OF THE CASE, NO USEFUL PURPOSE WILL BE SERVED BY GIVING MR. CAPTAIN AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLAIN THE BASIS OF HIS CLAIM TO THE OWNERSHIP OF THE INDUSTRIAL UNIT."

5. WE INTEND TO REPLY TO NOTE VERBALE, AS WE DID VERBALLY TO MFA'S ISLAM, THAT WE CONTINUE REQUEST NO ACTION BE TAKEN ON DISPOSITION OF THE PROPERTY UNTIL CAPTAIN CAN VISIT DACCA AND HAS HAD A FULL OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS HIS CASE.

6 ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE ADVISE CAPTAIN THAT BDG HAS INFORMED EMBASSY THAT HE MAY NOW ENTER BANGLADESH AND RECOMMEND THAT HE VISIT DACCA SOON. IN ANTICIPATION OF CAPTAIN'S ARRIVAL WE REQUEST FURTHER GUIDANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT ON POSITION EMBASSY SHOULD TAKE ON CAPTAIN'S BEHALF IN LIGHT OF INFORMATION WE PROVIDED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN REF (E) AND CAPTAIN'S CONVERSATIONS WITH THE DEPARTMENT (REF A).
SCHNEIDER

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NNN

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